

Issue 37 February 16 2016

Thornhill enews



Dear Parents and Pupils

Welcome to another school year. I trust you were able to enjoy a relaxing and happy holiday, and that you are ready for the challenges that 2016 will bring.

I would like to start this newsletter by extending a warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families, who have joined us at the beginning of this academic year. Thornhill prides itself on being a truly family oriented school and we hope you all feel very welcome.

It is good to be able to report that the first four weeks of school have gone off smoothly and that the children seem relaxed and ready to embrace the learning experiences.

Staff News

I would like to welcome the following staff to Thornhill:

- Mrs Rossenkhan joins our French Department
- Mrs Handa Ram joins our Learning Support Department
- Mr Peter Newbery joins Standard 6

I know you will make them feel welcome. I look forward to a happy and productive journey with them. Please note, Mr Warwick has moved to Standard 7 for 2016, but will still continue to work with the IT Department.

Personal Information

Please ensure that the School Office is kept informed of any changes in personal details, such as e-mail, address and telephone numbers. Please ensure all emergency contacts are up to date in case there is a need to contact you. Please also ensure that all medical conditions (changes or current) are communicated to both your child's teacher and the school management.

Collecting Children From School

You are requested to collect your child promptly at the end of the day. If your child has no sport then they cannot remain at school after 13:30. If your child attends Afternoon Activities, then I expect them to be collected promptly at the end of their activity. Too many children are left at school for long periods in the afternoon and this is unacceptable.

Younger siblings cannot wait at school for their older brothers or sisters, if they do not have activities, as we are concerned for their safety. In future, the duty staff member will monitor this and parents will be contacted where necessary. Older siblings cannot collect younger siblings from the Foundation playground at the end of the day. These younger siblings will be taken to the Administration Office at 13:15, in line with the school policy.

Should your child have private activities at school that take place late in the afternoon (swimming, karate etc.) and no school activity, then they should go home at the end of the school day and return in time for the beginning of their activity.

Our 2016 Receptions

There was great excitement as our 'new' Reception families arrived for their first day of 'big' school!

The children were soon in full swing, enjoying their new environment and sharing special moments with their friends. I have the pleasure of going off to 'see' these bright and excited faces every day and as one little chap said to me, "The first week has been a piece of cake." Once again, welcome to all our Reception families and we hope you will have a very exciting and productive year with us.

Entrances

Please ensure you use any of the four main entrances to Thornhill as follows:

- The field entrance
- Pedestrian gate near the Reception playground
- Pedestrian gate next to the Administration Office
- Drop off area next to Std 5 block

Please do not drop your child off at the 'staff entrance' and allow them to walk through the car park, as staff members use this as an entrance in the morning. You can use this 'staff gate' entrance from 12:30 to 13:15, if you park outside and walk in to collect your child. Please be considerate when you park your vehicle near any one of the 'school' or 'home owners' entrances and refrain from parking opposite or in front of them.

Please adhere to the speed limit of 40 Km when travelling on the roads adjacent to school. Please drop off in the designated drop-off area (entrance near Std 5 on Pilane Road). Please be mindful of our children and considerate of other parents dropping off or fetching their children. Please remember that you must be an example to your child at all times and I hope you carry yourself with dignity.

The security and estate staff perform a duty on behalf of the school each and every day, whether directing traffic or ensuring the safety of our children. I would request that you treat them with respect and listen to them. Should you have any problems or queries then direct these to me.

Pupil Achievements

Congratulations to Natasha Keakile and Botsile Keetshabe for being elected as the 2016 Marimba Band Captain and Vice Captain respectively. I would like to wish Natasha and her band much success for 2016.

Congratulations to Brandon Rouse, who has been selected to represent Botswana at CANA 3&4 in Mauritius. This is a great achievement, Brandon!

Past pupils who have also been included in the Botswana squad are Kitso Matija, Amantle Mogara, Zinhle Bekker, Andile Bekker, Isabella Jamu, Alexander Jamu and Patrick Walsh.

House Points for Term 3/2015

Congratulations and well done to Limpopo on winning the House Points Trophy for Term 3/2015. Limpopo was followed by Chobe, Notwane and Shashe respectively.

Stewart Trophy

This trophy is awarded to the Champion House, as the overall winner of all Inter House fixtures throughout 2015. Congratulations to Shashe, as they were crowned victors at our final assembly of the year. Results were as follows:

1. Shashe
2. Chobe
3. Limpopo
4. Notwane


I look forward to a successful and productive term and I trust that you enjoy the journey with us. I leave you with these words:

"You can have results or you can have your excuses. You cannot have both." – Unknown

I Greaves

Headteacher

Marimba Band Trip to Morula

A group of children and an adult are playing marimbas outdoors. They are seated on red plastic chairs. The marimbas are made of wooden bars and gongs. The background is a green net structure. The children are wearing red and blue shirts. The adult is wearing a striped shirt.

On Friday 20 January, the Thornhill Senior Marimba Band accompanied by the Music Department and Sally, travelled to Morula School in Selebi Phikwe for a Music Festival with children from Morula Primary, Kopano Primary School and Morula High School.

The children were split into groups and took part in a series of workshops on Friday afternoon and Saturday Marimbas with Mr Kamwi and Mrs Holzapfel, Boom-whackers with Mrs Price, Drumming with Miss Kamwi and Dance with Sally.

Friday evening ended with a short 'concert' for all the participants, where those who wanted to, could take the stage. The weekend culminated with a public concert on Saturday evening to showcase all that had been learned over the weekend. It was a great evening of music and entertainment and was enjoyed by all who came to watch. All of the children performed exceptionally well.

The weekend was a fantastic way for our senior band to start the year, with new friendships being formed and a lot of fun had by all.

Thornhill would like to thank Morula School for their hospitality and assistance in making the weekend a huge success.

Prefects for 2016



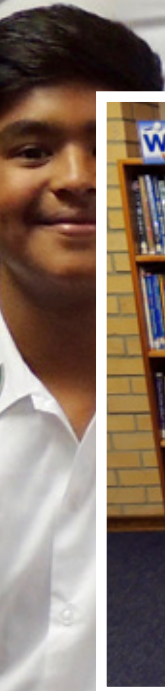
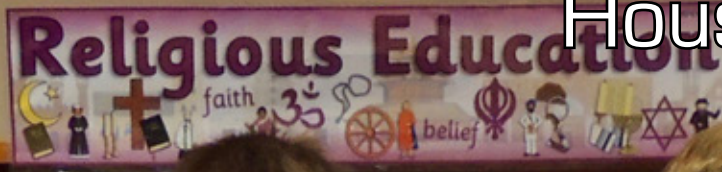
The new prefects for 2016 were announced at the final assembly and congratulations to the following children:

(Back Row) Monei Maruping, Ria De Sai, Anne Mu, Tinahse Rugara, Wezi Mtonga

(Middle Row) Lara Hart, Chandrasekhar Damodar, Umphilo Phiri, Bokang Mogomotsi, Adrian Cornet

(Front Row) Tabitha Steenkamp, One Kenosi, Amantle Peloewetse, Natasha Keakile, Botsile Keetshabe

House Captains



Congratulations to the following children who have been selected as 2016 House Captains:

Limpopo:

Captain: Chandrasekha Damodar

Vice Captain: Khumoetsile Letebele

Shashe:

Captain: Jack Tuffek

Vice Captain: Adrian Cornet

Chobe:

Captain: One Kenosi

Vice Captain: Brandon Rouse

Notwane:

Captain: Amantle Peloewetse

Vice Captain: Apele Butale

Librarians



Congratulations to the following
Standard 6 selected children:

Erin Chequer 6C
Suchitra Rajesh 6N
Ismail Chand 6N
Manatsa Maunga 6N
Maya Tekie 6N
Sarah-Beth Hill 6W
Rebolokeng Morwaeng 6N
Sangamithrai Elumalai 6W
Etienne De Klerk 6N
Aamerah Osman 6W
Lindiwe Haitzma 6N
Zahrah Bhamjee 6N
Donna Jain 6C
Zaara Haddad 6N



Night Cricket

vs Northside
Northside 78 for 6
[Ammar 2 wkts for 2 runs &
Aidan 2 wkts for 7 runs]
Thornhill 79 for 1
[Aidan 36* & Jack 20]
CoM – Aidan Lees
Thornhill won by 9 wickets

vs Broadhurst
Broadhurst 58 for 4
[Jack 2 wkts for 5 runs &
Tahir 1 wkt for 5 runs]
Thornhill 62 for 2
[Calvin 19* and Jack 16*]
CoM – Jack Tuffek
Thornhill won by 8 wickets

Inter House Cricket

Round 1 was completed last week and Shashe and Chobe will do battle to see who gets the top honours for 2016. Limpopo and Notwane will play for third and fourth place respectively.





February 16 2016
Thornhill ICT Department